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Great Americans Series: Dr. Charles Drew

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Issue Date: June 3, 1981
First Day City: Washington, D.C.
Designer: Nathan Jones
Dallas, Texas
Modeler: No modeling credits
Engravers: Thomas R. Hipschen (vignette)
Gary J. Slaght (lettering & numerals)
Press: Intaglio
Color: Gray
Image Area: .75 x .87 inches or
19.05 x 22.09 millimeters
Plate Numbers: One
Stamps Per Pane: 100
Selvage: • U.S. Postal Service
• Use Correct ZIP Code
• Mr. ZIP

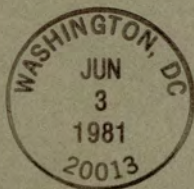
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Dr. Charles Drew Regular Stamp

A 35-cent stamp honoring Dr. Charles R. Drew will be issued June 3, 1981, in Washington, D.C., his birthplace. The date also coincides with the 77th anniversary of his birth.

Dr. Drew, a black scientist, professor, administrator and surgeon, made many valuable contributions to medical science. The most important of these was his discovery and development of methods to preserve blood plasma. The application of his research and findings provided the U.S. Armed Forces with its first blood bank in World War II operations. Before 1940, there was no efficient way to store large quantities of blood plasma for use during emergencies or in wartime when thousands of lives depended on the availability of blood for transfusions.

The stamp is the third issue in the new Great Americans Series which began in 1980 with a stamp honoring Sequoyah and continued in 1981 with the George Mason and Rachel Carson issues. This new series of regular stamps will gradually replace the current Americana Series. The 35-cent denomination meets the new First-Class postage rate for two ounces of mail.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE